Review of Decision on Dabhol Power Project

*139. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the previous Government led by Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee had cleared the Dabhol Power Project;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to review that decision; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) On 27.05.1996, the previous Government approved extending the Government of India (GOI) counter-guarantee already given to DPC on 15.09.1994 for Phase-I of 695 MW power station to the revised capacity of 740 MW of Phase-I, without any changes in the terms and conditions of the GOI counter-guarantee.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I club Question No. 139 with Question No. 128 because they are the same questions.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, the answer is quite perplexing. The contract is cancelled, that is agreed to. There is a contract with Enron or Dabhol Power Corporation. The contract is cancelled by the State Government; the power purchase agreement is cancelled; everything is cancelled. But, it says that the counter-gaurantee remains. I would like to know from the Minister as to what this mystery is. I have never heard of any contractual obligation. The contract is cancelled; the amount against which counter-gaurantee has been given, that is cancelled; a new power purchase agreement is being made, then how can the counter-gaurantee which was made against this payment be valid? It is against this that the Finance Secretary had submitted before the Parliamentary Committee, the report of which has been submitted to the Parliament in the month of March. He said specifically that the counter-guarantee had become ineffective. Would the Minister like to clarify this point?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI: Mr. Chairman Sir, as per Clause 3 of the counter-guarantee signed on 15.0.94, the guarantee shall expire at the earliest occurrence of the following events. (*Interruptions*) One, termination of the agreement of the Maharashtra State Electricity Board; when some amount or advance remains outstanding to the lenders under the financing agreements referred to; after the expiry of two years from the date of entry of phase number one into commercial service. If Enron Corporation and Bechtel Enterprise directly or through their respective affiliates together cease to hold at least 50 per cent of the issued share capital of the company at any time before the financial closure of the.....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: No, no; the contract is cancelled. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. Hon. Minister the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

भूमिहीन गरीबों को अतिरिक्त भूमि का आबंटन

*121. श्री एस॰ एस॰ सुरजेवाला:
श्री अजीत जोगी:

क्या ग्रामीण और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान राज्य-वार कितने